is not possible at this stage to indicate a definite time-frame for completion of the investigation.

Issue of Free Passes in IA and AI

4111. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rules governing the issue of complimentary free passes by the Indian Airlines and Air India;

(b) what are the names of the persons to whom such passes were issued during the last three years, year-wise and category-wise;

(c) which are the authorities vested with discretionary powers for issue of such passes in addition to the above rules; and

(d) what are the reasons for grant of such discretionary powers of issuing complementary passes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Development Plans for Chitrakoot

4112. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chitrakoot occupies important place for the people of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that lakhs of people visit chitrakoot every month;

(c) whether it is also fact that people visiting Chitrakoot face a lot of difficulties due to lack of infrastructural facilities there;

(d) whether Government propose to give Chitrakoot the status of a tourist spot;

(e) if so, what action has been taken both at State and Central level, in this regard; and

(f) the future development plans of this place?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (f) Large number of tourists visit Chitrakoot. The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned construction of tourist complex for Rs. 9.66 lakhs during 1990-91 and yatri niwas for Rs. 35.74 lakhs during 1991-92 for augmentation of accommodation facilities in Chitrakoot. The development of any place as a tourist spot/centre is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments.

Plan to open guide-centres for Tourists in Chandigarh

4113. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have any plans to open guide-centres for tourists near Railway Station, Chandigarh, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what are Government's plan to extend the facility of tourist buses from Chandigarh to other areas in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No Sir, does not arise.

Development of New Air Ports

4114. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether government propose to develop new airports in the country;

(b) if so, the locations where these new airports would be developed;

(c) whether Government have taken steps to acquire land from the State Governments and the allocations made for the development of new airports; and

(d) the role of the state Governments [illegible]?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A new airport is proposed to be developed at Tura in Meghalaya.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Meghalaya has handed over the land to National Airports Authority (NAA). An amount of Rs.2.43 crores has been earmarked by NAA to be spent during the Eigth Plan period. The present cost estimates of this project is Rs.6.17 crores. The NAA would take up the project when the financial resources are identified.

Earnings of Janpath and Ranjit Hotels

4115. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM. Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ITDC has earmarked about Rs. 20 crores for renovation and face-lift of certain five star or four star hotels during the year;

(b) whether the ITDC's Hotels, Janpath and Ranjit have been earning sufficient profits currently unit-wise with high rates of occupancy;

(c) whether elevators/lifts in the above two hotels are outdated and they have no central air-conditioning plants;

(d) whether customer services have been fastly deterorating without any effective action from the management;

(e) whether the management of the above two hotels are not directed to revamp these hotels to serve better and increase profitability with reputation; and

(f) if so, the details and the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) For the year 1994-95, ITDC has drawn up a renovation programme for its hotels envisaging capital outlay of Rs.600 lakhs.

(b) As per provisional results for the year 1993-94, while hostel Janpath earned net profit of Rs.131.35 lakhs achieving 76% occupancy, Ranjit Hotel incurred a loss of Rs.72.26 lakhs and achieved occupancy of 41%.

(c) Though the elevators/lifts in both these hotels are old, these are maintained regularly to ensure satisfactory operation. These hotels do not have individual central air-conditioning plants.

(d) No Sir, the services provided in these hotels are of requisite standards.

(e) and (f) Though presently there is no proposal under consideration to change the profile of these hotels, necessary renovation/improvement works are undertaken to maintain the hotels upto acceptable standards.

Development of Tourist Potentials in Rajasthan

4116. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minster of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Rajasthan is potential State for tourist of difference interest;

(b) if so, the steps taken during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (till todate) for development of the tourist potentials of Rajasthan;

(c) whether there is any rise in foreign exchange earning as far as Rajasthan is concerned; and

(d) whether any target set for more foreign exchange earning during the Eigth Plan Period for rich State like Rajasthan from tourists' attraction point of view and also out of a total target of Rs.10,000 crore set by Government of India for the turn of century, as reported in the 'economic Times' New Delhi, dated 7th August, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Development of tourism is a continuous process. 32 schemes/projects amounting to Rs.413.74 lakhs have been